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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/647,086	09/26/2000	Yuji Sawada	55168(55)	4078
21874	7590	11/18/2003	EXAMINER	
EDWARDS & ANGELL, LLP P.O. BOX 9169 BOSTON, MA 02209			GART, MATTHEW S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3625	

DATE MAILED: 11/18/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/647,086

Applicant(s)

SAWADA ET AL.

Examiner

Matthew s Gart

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-- Th MAILING DATE of this communication app ars on the cover sheet with the correspond nce address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-19 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 20-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 September 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4, 5. 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Claims 1-19 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in Paper No. 9.

Specification

The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 20-24 and 25-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wilson U.S. Patent No. 5,195,092.

Referring to claim 20. Wilson discloses a data reproducing apparatus reproducing digital data including reproducing apparatus specifying information specifying an apparatus capable of reproduction (abstract), comprising:

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- A first determining apparatus determining whether said reproduction apparatus specifying information matches reproduction apparatus ID information unique to said reproducing apparatus (at least column 7, lines 1-31); and
- A control apparatus enabling or disabling reproduction of digital data by said reproducing apparatus dependent on the result of determination by said first determining apparatus (at least Fig. 2 and claim 13).

Referring to claim 21. Wilson further discloses a data reproducing apparatus wherein:

- Said digital data includes display data reproduced visually (at least Fig. 2); and
- Said reproducing apparatus comprising a display apparatus for visually reproducing and displaying said digital data (at least Fig. 2).

Referring to claim 22. Wilson further discloses a data reproducing apparatus further comprising an ID information input apparatus responsive to determination by said first determining apparatus that said reproducing apparatus specifying information does not match the reproduction apparatus ID information unique to said reproducing apparatus, urging a user to enter a reproducing apparatus ID information (at least column 2, lines 34-58).

Referring to claim 23. Wilson further discloses a data reproducing apparatus comprising:

- A second determining apparatus determining whether the reproducing apparatus ID information input by said ID information input apparatus matches said reproducing apparatus specifying information; wherein said control apparatus

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enables or disables reproduction of digital data by said reproducing apparatus dependent on the result of determination by said second determining apparatus (at least column 2, lines 34-58 and column 7, lines 1-31).

Referring to claim 24. Wilson further discloses a data reproducing apparatus comprising:

- An update selecting apparatus responsive to the determination by said second determining apparatus that the reproducing apparatus ID information input by said ID information input apparatus matches said reproducing apparatus specifying information, allowing the user to select whether said reproducing apparatus specifying information is to be updated by said input reproducing apparatus ID information (at least column 21, lines 5-42); and
- An updating apparatus responsive to the selection by said update selecting apparatus that said reproducing apparatus specifying information is to be updated by said reproducing apparatus specifying information by said input reproducing apparatus ID information (at least column 21, lines 5-42).

Referring to claims 25-26. Claims 25-26 are rejected under the same rationale as set forth above in claims 20-24.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

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Hamamoto, U.S. Patent No. 6,282,611, August 28, 2001, discloses a digital information system.

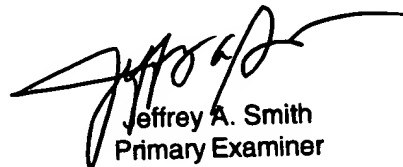
Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Matthew Gart whose telephone number is 703-305-5355. This examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday, 8:30AM-5:30PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ms. Wynn Coggins can be reached on 703-308-1344. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-7239 for regular communications and 703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

MSG

November 3, 2003



Jeffrey A. Smith
Primary Examiner